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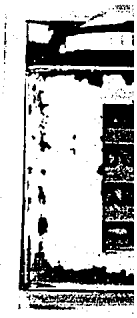

CHINESE GOVERNMENT ORGANIZES SCIENTIFIC SURVEYS

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Shanghai, 18 Apr 1953

[Summary: The Academia Sinica and the Various ministries of the People's Republic of China, are making surveys in the fields of biology, hydrology, soil conservation, and geography. Survey teams will conduct studies on vegetation, forestry, fishing, and wildlife resources and make geological studies of soils.]

The Academia Sinica and the Ministries of Water Conservancy, Forestry, Agriculture, and Railways, of the People's Republic of China have organized a large group of scientists to begin investigation, research, and surveys in various areas in the fields of biology, hydrology, soil conservation, and geography. Teams will conduct surveys on vegetation resources, forestry resources, geological studies of soils, and fishing and wildlife resources.

To gain knowledge of the country's vegetation resources, species, and geographical distribution, and to control and solve the soil utilization problems, study teams will be sent to Kwangsi, Yunnan, and Kwangtung provinces. In soil research, emphasis has been placed on the study of the progressive utilization of uncultivated red soil, while in vegetation research, a geographical distribution map of the vegetation of the entire country will be constructed, beginning with Kwangsi.

The Mammalogy Department of the Zoological Research Institute has gone into the Lesser Khingan Range forest area of the Northeast to study thoroughly the mamal species, their geographical distribution, natural habitat, living habits, propagation, etc. The Ornithology Department of the same institute is studying methods for the protection of insectivorous birds, the elimination of and protection from destructive types of birds, and their geographical distribution in the fruit growing area of northern Hopeh Province.

The present locust control methods, supplied by insect research, are progressively eliminating the locust epidemics.

Marine and fresh water biology research will involve a large-scale program of lake study in Hupeh Province as well as research work on the elimination of fish diseases in the fishing areas of Kiangsu, Chekiang, and Kwangtung provinces. Hupeh Province with more than 1,000 lakes has the greatest number in China, but only a small number of these are now being used for fishing.

To exploit this resource, the marine and fresh-water biological research group, which began investigating the principal lakes of the province in 1953, suggests improving the utilization of the lakes by expanding the fishing industries. The Marine and Fresh-Water Research Institute, the Tsingtao Marine Biological Research Institute, and the Zoological Research Institute with the cooperation of the Central Marine Products Testing Laboratory, the Shantung Marine Products Company, and the Zoology Division of Shantung University will study marine life in Huang Hai and Po Hai, as well as conduct research on seaweed growth along the shores of Shantung. They will also do research on invertebrate marine life in Shantung and Chekiang.

Plant, soil, and geographic study groups of the Ministries of Water Conservancy, Agriculture, and Forestry, and the Academia Sinica will organize scientific teams to inspect the Yellow River and study preservation of soil to solve the sediment problem of the Yellow River. Geographic study groups of the Ministry of Water Conservancy and the Academia Sinica will organize inspection teams to investigate the water conservation problems in the Han Chiang basin.

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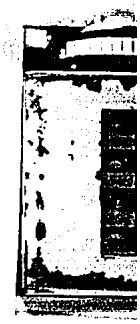
The geographic study groups of the Ministry of Railways and the Academia Sinica will organize research teams to go into Northwest China to study the local geography in preparation for proposed railway routes there.

To prepare soil samples for a pasture-field rotation system, the Academia Sinica testing laboratory and the North China agricultural science study office are cooperatively using the hills of North Chahar and Hsiao-wu-t'ai as research centers.

Scientists participating in the field research work include: Chang Chao-ch'ien, botanist; Wu Hsien-wen and Chang Ch'un-lin, icthyologists; T'ung Ti-chou and Shou Chen-huang, zoologists; Jao Ch'in-chin, marine botantist; Chu Shu-p'ing and I Ta-shu, marine zoologists; Sung Ta-ch'uan, Hsiung I, and Feng Chao-lin, agronomists; Cheng Tso-hsin, ornithologist; Ma Shih-chun, entomologist; and Huang Ping-wei, geographer.



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